



APSINTHION

PROTOCOL



WRITTEN BY DR. FAUSTUS
ILLUSTRATED BY EROSARTS

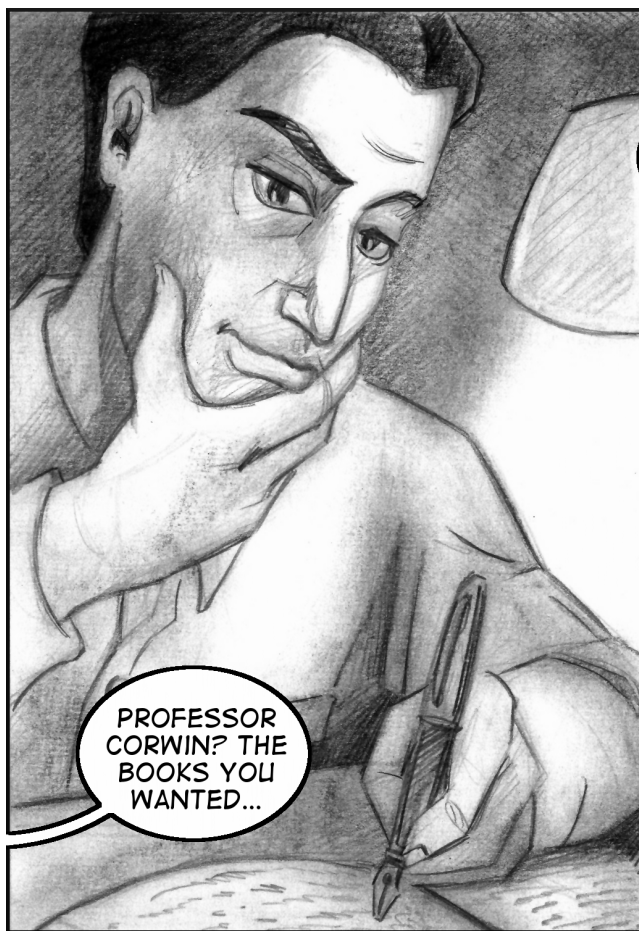
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Thank you, and enjoy.



PROFESSOR CORWIN? THE BOOKS YOU WANTED...



COPIOUS COMMENTS...AN EXCEPTIONAL ESSAY, PROFESSOR?

I **ALWAYS** TRY TO GIVE THE FINE STUDENTS OF GNOSIS COLLEGE THEIR PARENTS' MONEY'S WORTH...

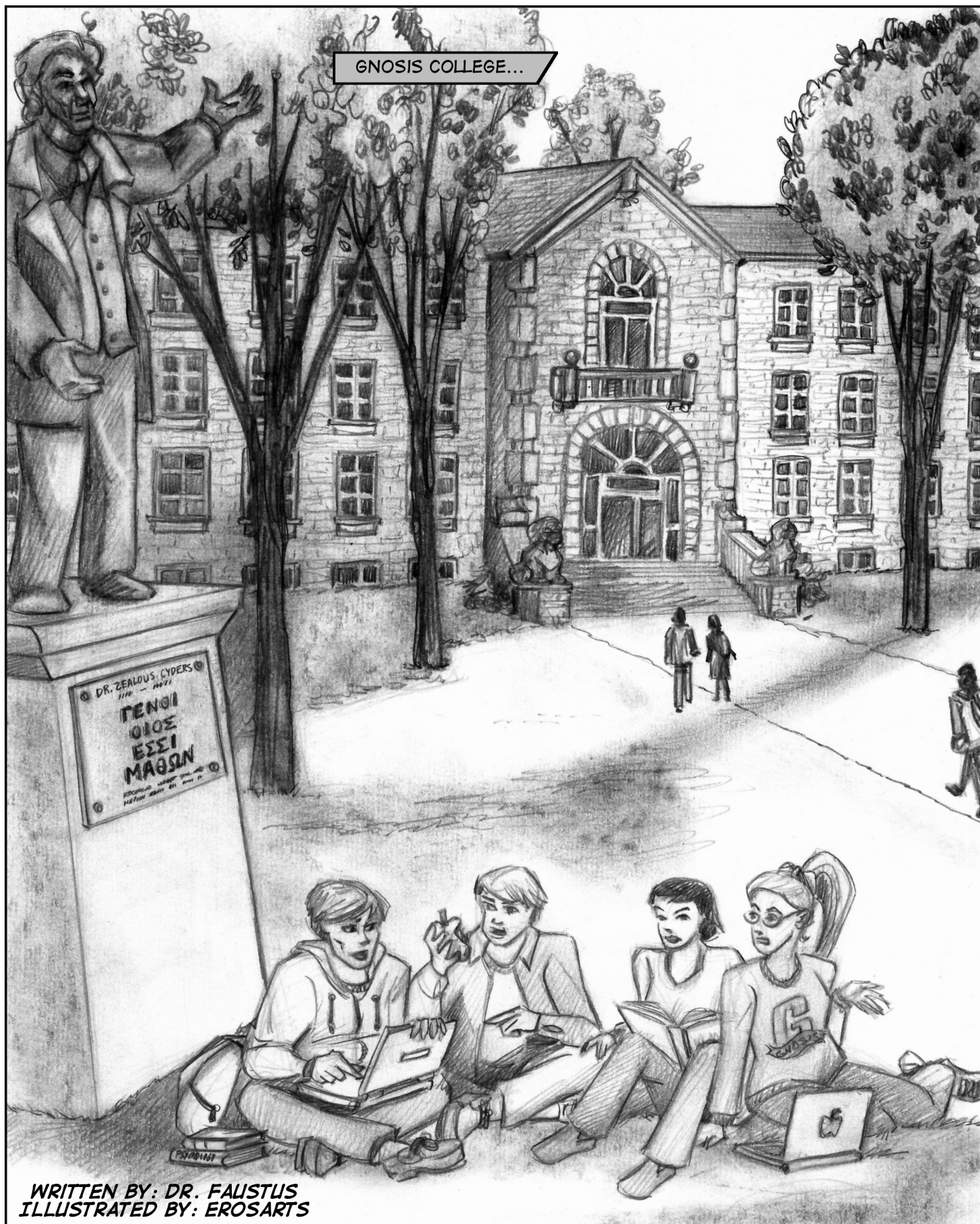


...AND FOR A FEW VERY DESERVING STUDENTS, THE COMMENTS ARE THE KEY THAT OPENS UP A DOOR.

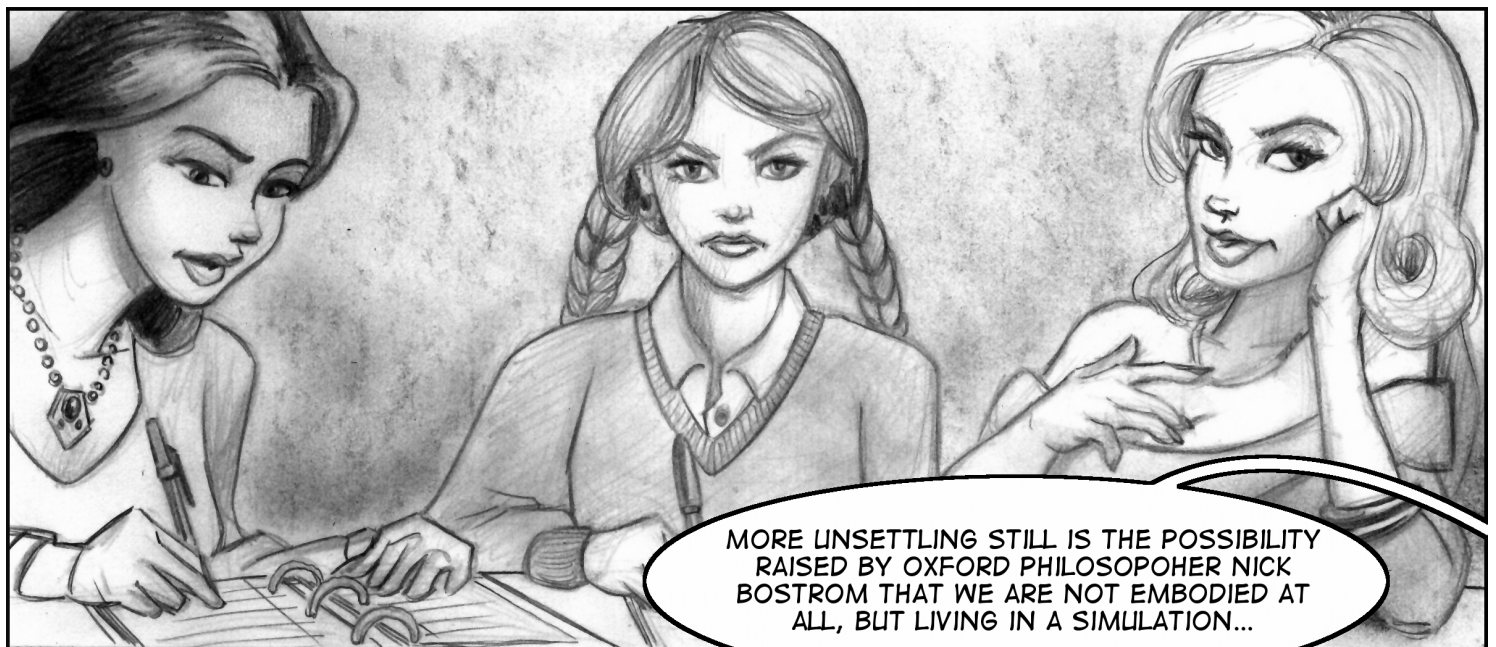
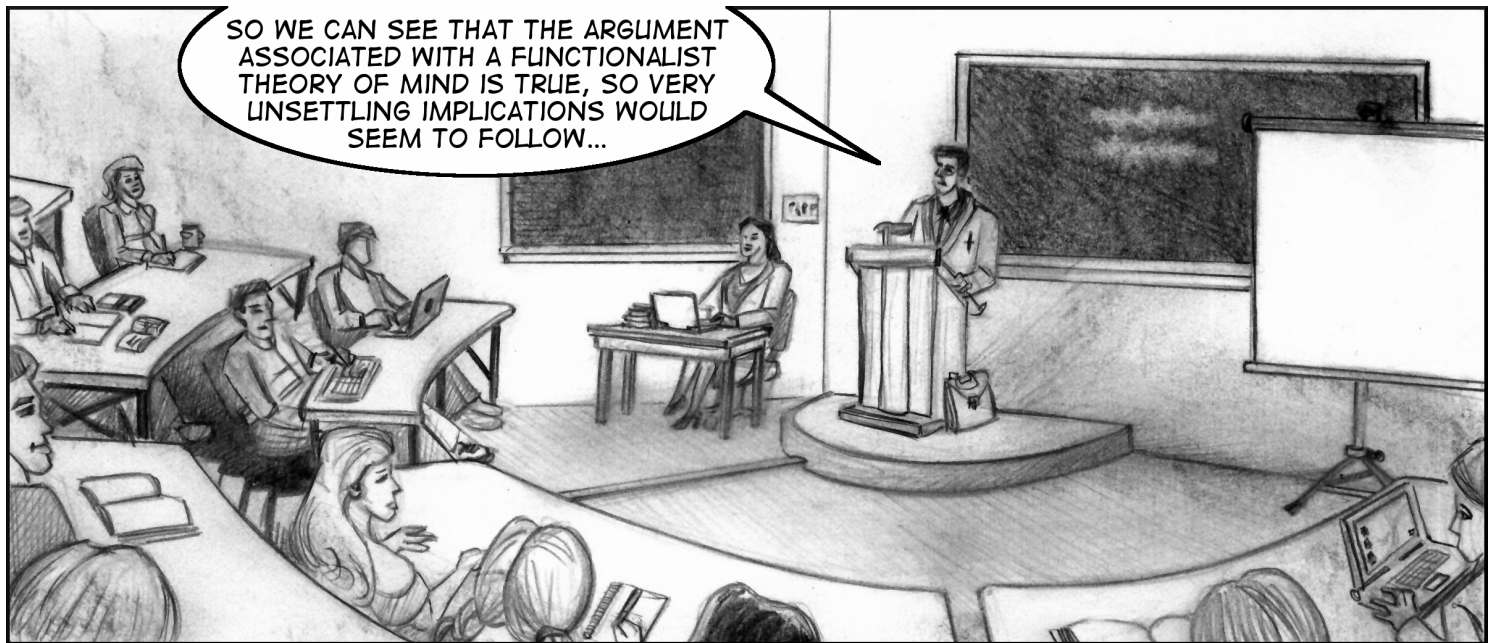


I SEE...

GNOSIS COLLEGE...



WRITTEN BY: DR. FAUSTUS
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...AH, I SEE I'VE RUN OVER AGAIN.
OKAY, THAT'S ALL FOR THIS WEEK,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. KEEP IN
MIND THAT YOUR SECOND PAPERS
ARE DUE NEXT WEDNESDAY.



PROFESSOR
CORWIN, I'M A BIT
CONCERNED ABOUT
MY MOST RECENT
PAPER.

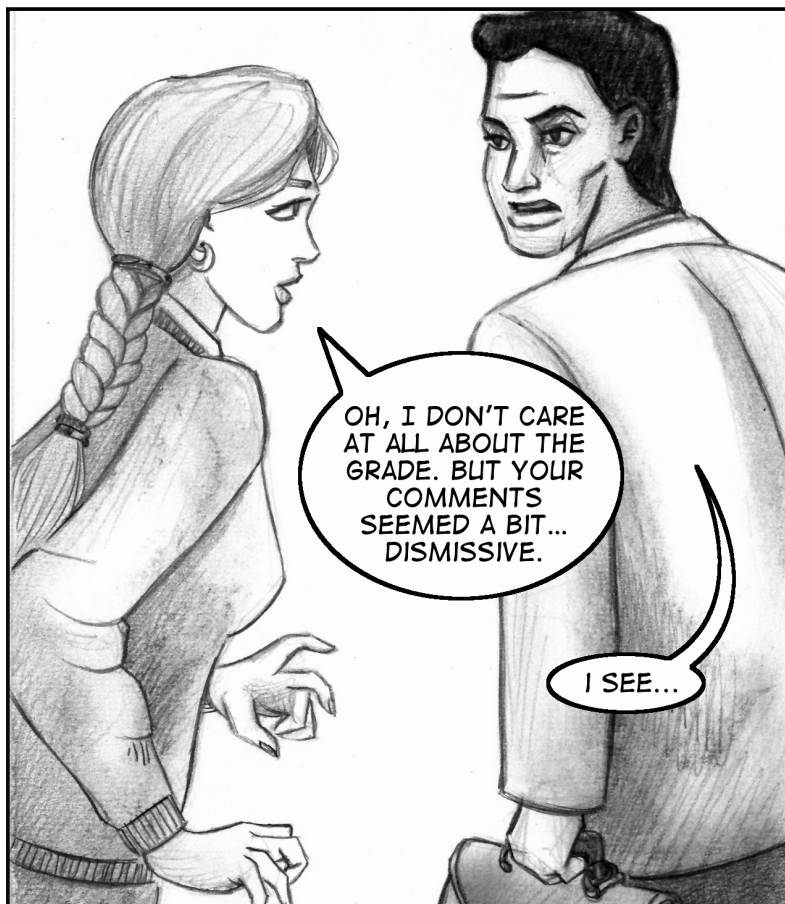
MISS RECTOR, A
GRADE OF A- IS
AN EXCELLENT
ONE, WHEN IT
COMES FROM ME.



PERHAPS WE
SHOULD DISCUSS
THIS FURTHER.
MISS LI CAN SET
UP AN
APPOINTMENT
FOR YOU.

OH, I DON'T CARE
AT ALL ABOUT THE
GRADE. BUT YOUR
COMMENTS
SEEMED A BIT...
DISMISSIVE.

I SEE...



WOULD *TWO*
DO, NANETTA?



FOUR O' CLOCK, AND THE DISCUSSION REMAINS HEATED...

BUT SURELY THIS APPLICATION OF SEARLE'S CHINESE ROOM ARGUMENT PRECLUDES TRANSMISSION OF PERSONAL IDENTITY ACROSS SUBSTRATES!

235
Joseph
Corwin

PHILOSOPHICAL ARGUMENTS LIKE THAT, MISS RECTOR, HOWEVER INGENIOUS, DO NOT TRUMP EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS!

ONE *GEDANKENEXPERIMENT* MEETS ANOTHER, YOURS FAR MORE COUNTERINTUITIVE THAN MINE. WHY SHOULD I FOLLOW YOU?

YOU SUGGEST I HAD IN MIND A MERE THOUGHT EXPERIMENT?

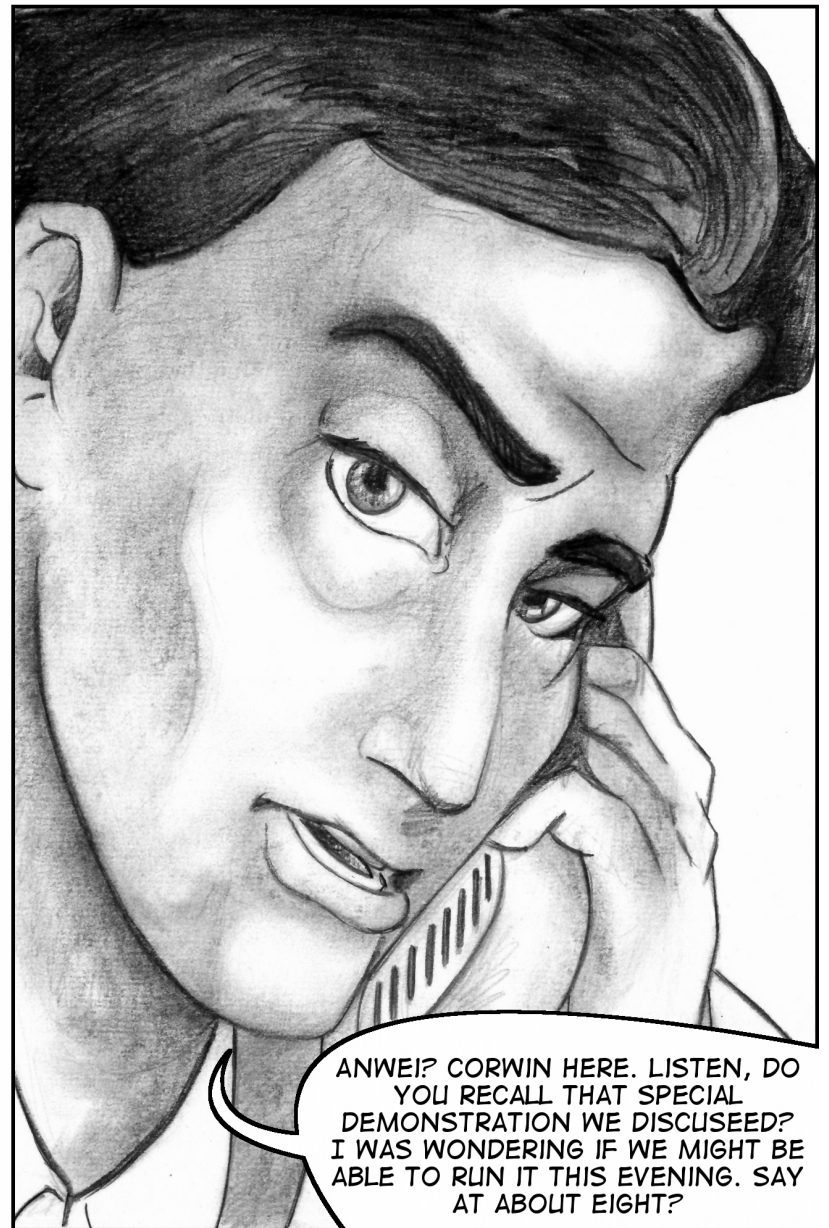
WHAT ELSE COULD IT BE?

DID YOU KNOW I RUN A LABORATORY...

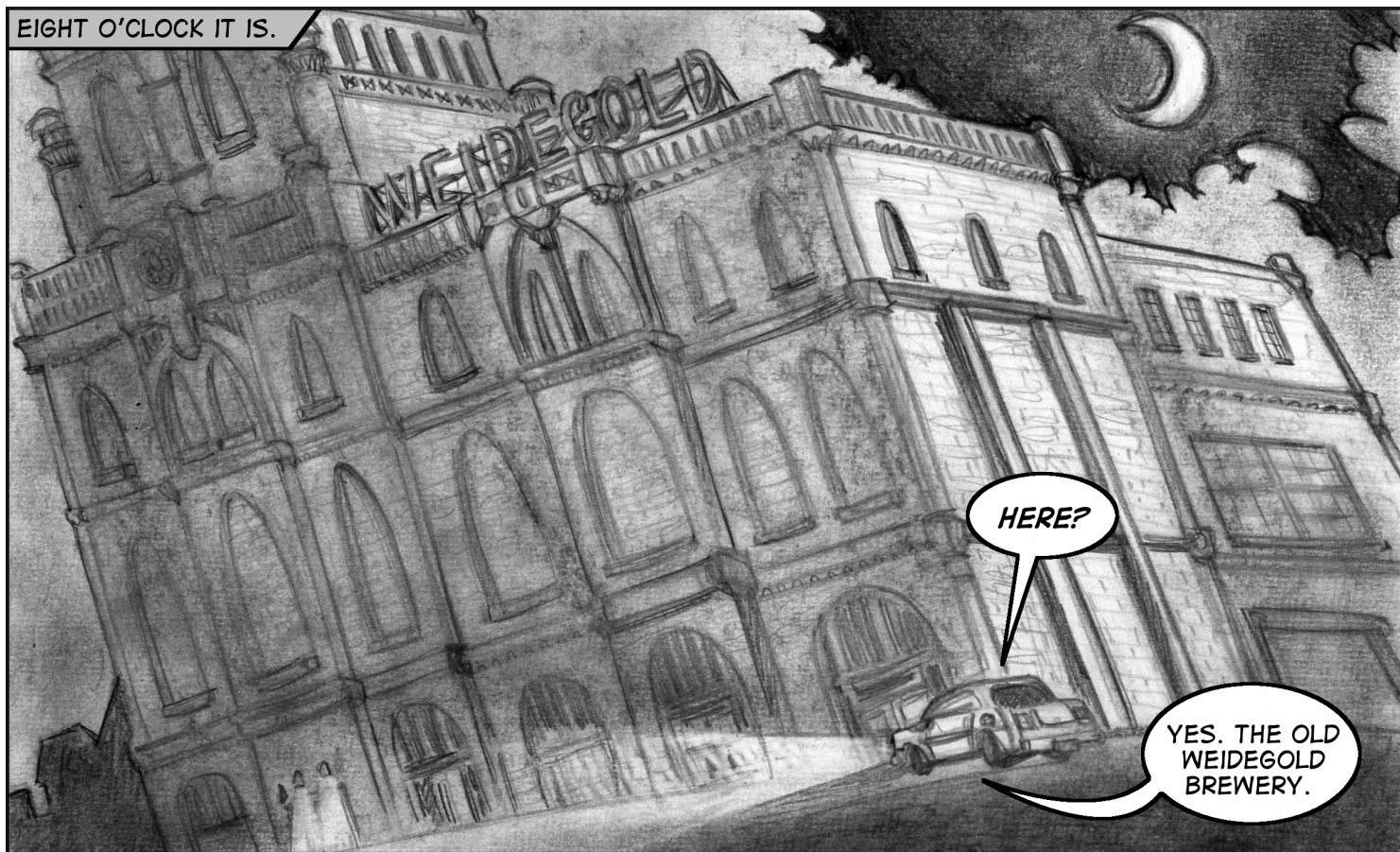
SURE. RIGHT HERE IN HUME HALL.

I HAVE IN MIND A RATHER DIFFERENT LABORATORY.

THE BUSINESS ACUMEN OF MY ANCESTORS HAS LEFT ME WITH SUFFICIENT PRIVATE MEANS TO ESTABLISH A *PERSONAL* LABORATORY OF MY OWN IN WHICH I CAN CONDUCT *BLUE SKY* RESEARCH.

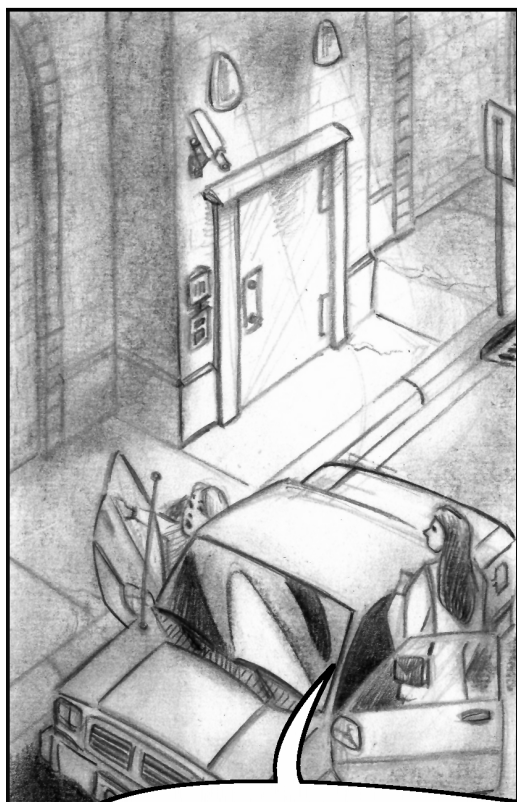


EIGHT O'CLOCK IT IS.



HERE?

YES. THE OLD WEIDEGOLD BREWERY.



NO BEER HAS BEEN BREWED HERE FOR FIFTY YEARS. I REALIZE IT MUST SEEM LIKE A STRANGE PLACE FOR A LAB...



...BUT IT'S PRIVATE, IT'S CHEAP, AND PROFESSOR CORWIN WAS ABLE TO MAKE GOOD USE OF THE EXISTING TANKAGE.



KNOWLEDGE AWAITS WITHIN.

TANKAGE?!



SO THIS IS THE
MYSTERIOUS OFFSITE.
IMPRESSIVE SETUP.

LADIES. I AM
MOST PLEASED
YOU COULD COME
BY THIS EVENING.



MOST CERTAINLY!

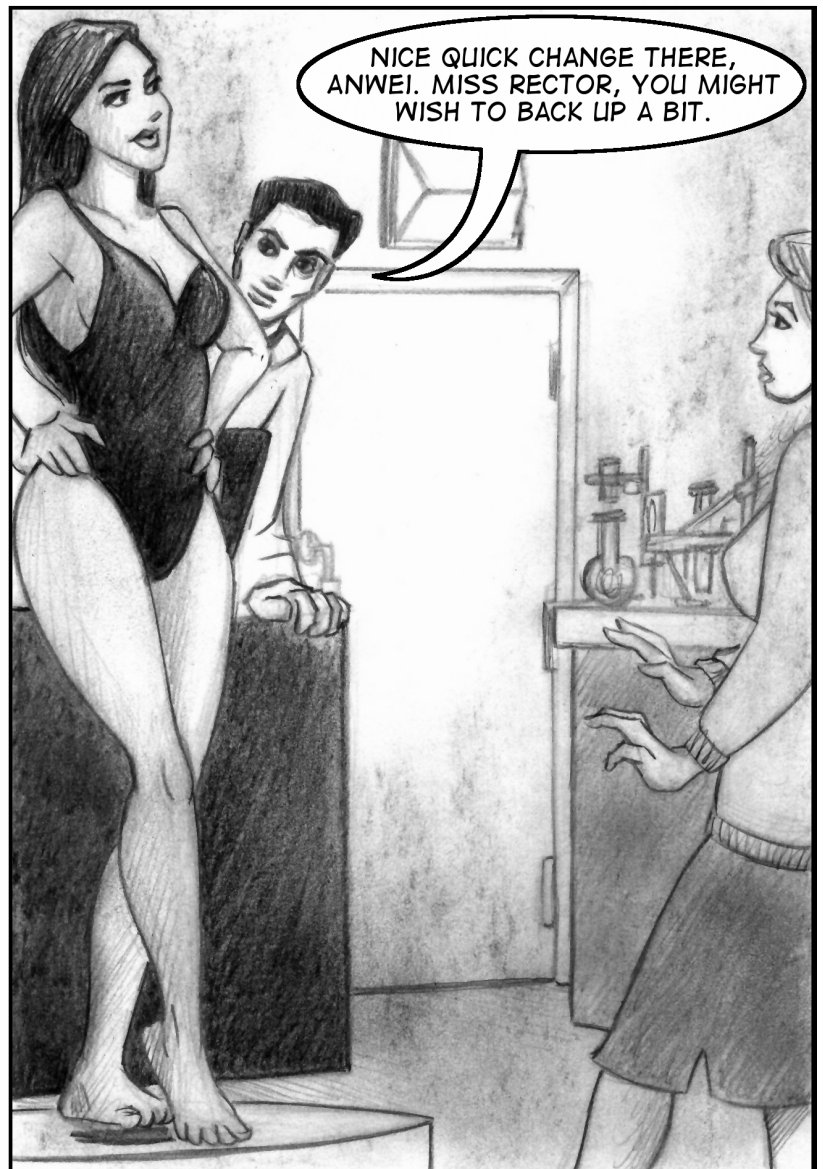
SO ALL THIS APPARATUS YOU HAVE HERE, ALL THIS EQUIPMENT, IS SOMETHING YOU CAN USE FOR A DEMONSTRATION THAT MY THESIS WAS INCORRECT?



I CAN'T FAULT YOUR SKEPTICISM. SOME THINGS MUST BE SEEN TO BE THOUGHT ANYTHING OTHER THAN MAD, AND MUST BE EXPERIENCED TO BE BELIEVED.



I AM READY.



NICE QUICK CHANGE THERE, ANWEI. MISS RECTOR, YOU MIGHT WISH TO BACK UP A BIT.



WE'VE REACHED THE
COMMIT POINT, ANWEI. ARE
YOU SURE YOU WANT TO GO
FORWARD WITH THIS?

WHRRRRR

APSINTHION PROTOCOL
COMMENCING. SUBJECT
BEING CONTAINED.

CONTAINED?

THEN LET'S SHOW
MISS RECTOR
HERE SOMETHING
REALLY SPECIAL.



ENVIRONMENTAL SEAL ESTABLISHED.
WARNING! DISRUPTION OF THE
PROTOCOL FROM THIS POINT MAY
RESULT IN GRAVE INJURY OR DEATH
TO THE SUBJECT...

PSHHHT!



DEATH OR INJURY...

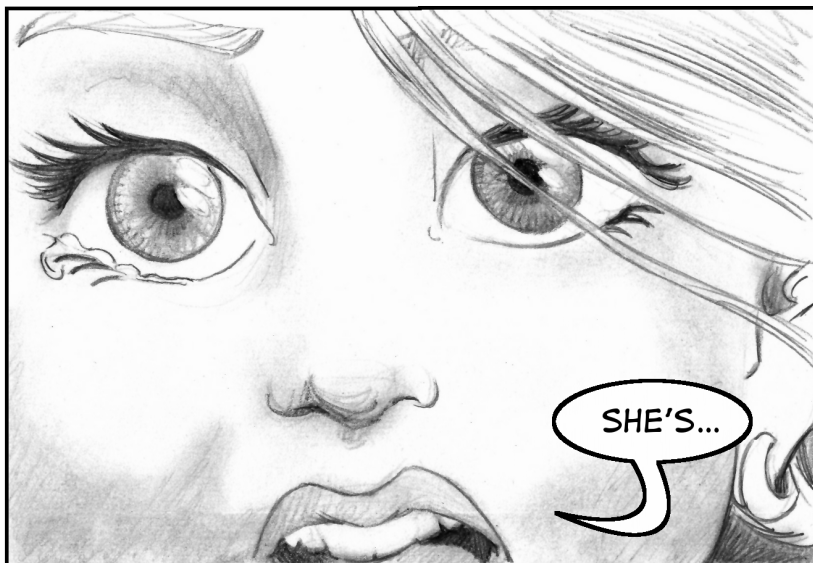
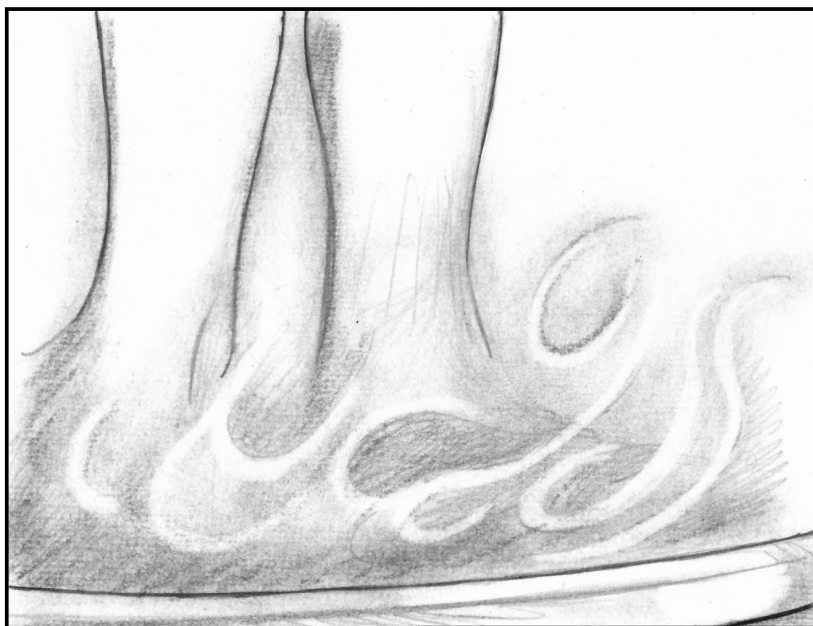
YOU DIDN'T TELL ME ABOUT ANYTHING DANGEROUS!



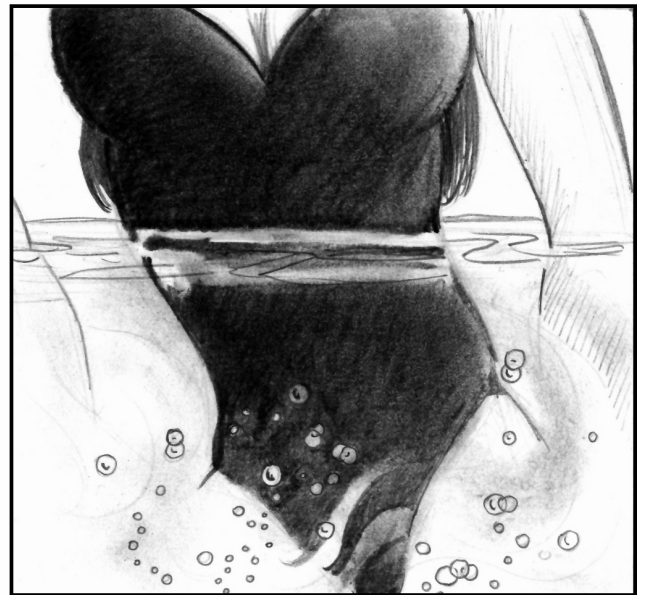
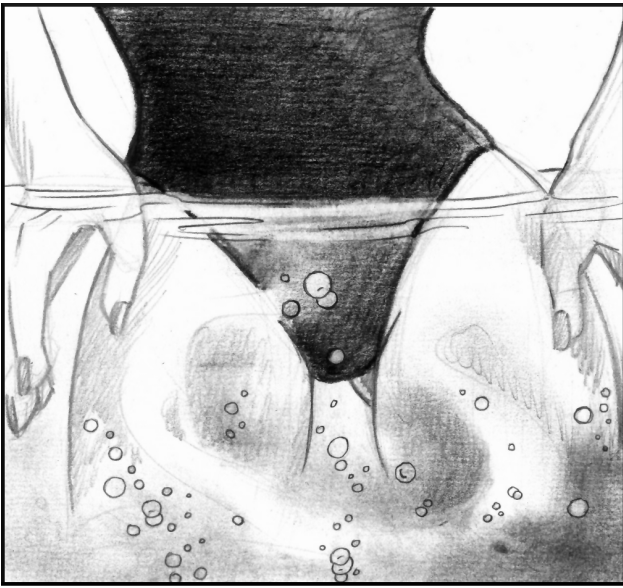
THERE IS NOTHING DANGEROUS. LOOK...

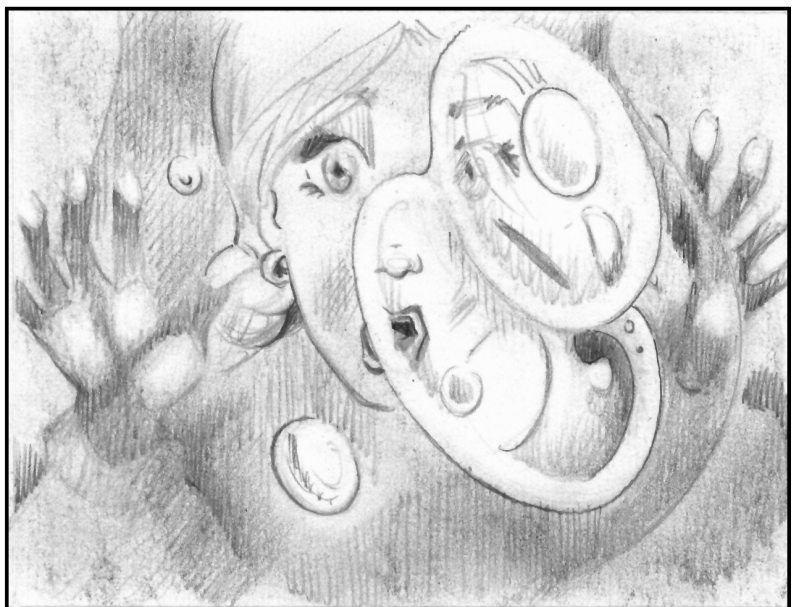


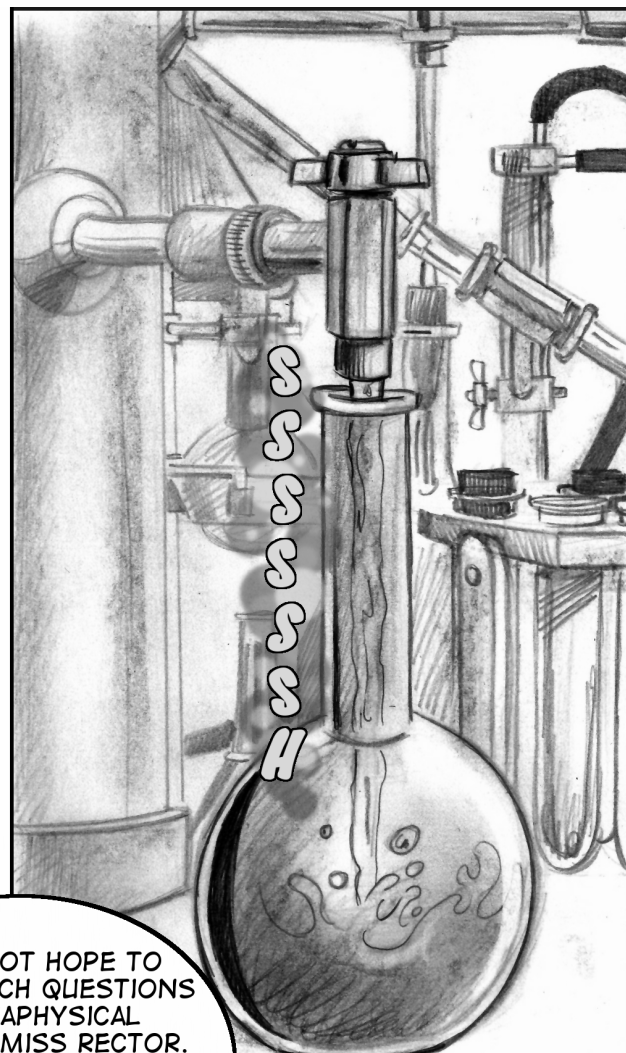
SOMETHING IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN!



SHE'S...

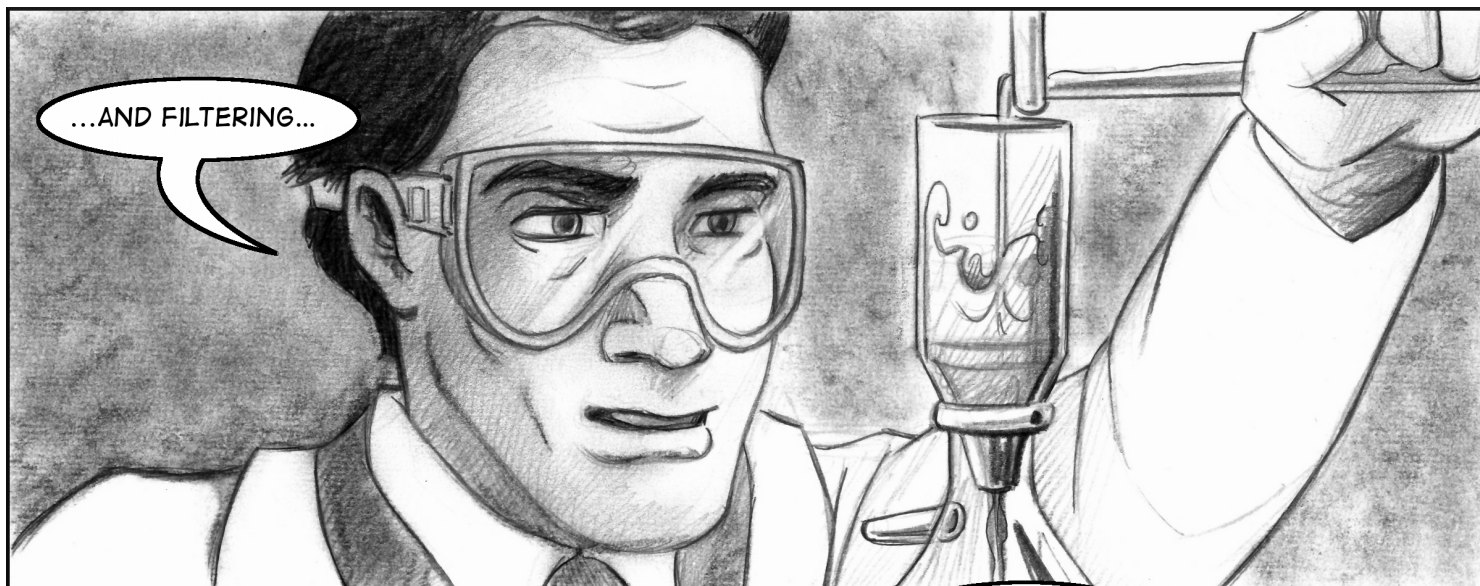






WE CANNOT HOPE TO ANSWER SUCH QUESTIONS BY METAPHYSICAL INQUIRIES, MISS RECTOR. INSTEAD, WE MUST APPROACH THE MATTER AS PRACTICAL **SCIENTISTS** AND BE BUSY COLLECTING...





YES, ANWEI. THE BEAUTIFUL YOUNG ANWEI. DISSOLVED, DISTILLED, REDUCED TO HER VERY ESSENCE. LIQUID GIRL! HERE YOU CAN HOLD HER...

YOU'RE EITHER A **MURDERER** WHO NEEDS TO BE LOCKED UP, OR A **PRANKSTER** WHO NEEDS TO BE FIRED, AND ONE WAY OR THE OTHER I'M...

...SHE IS STILL WARM.

I ASSURE YOU, DEAR YOUNG LADY, THAT I AM NEITHER. I SUPPOSE THAT IT'S ONLY FAIR THAT YOU BE **SHOWN** THIS BEFORE YOU'RE ASKED TO BELIEVE IT.

WATCH!

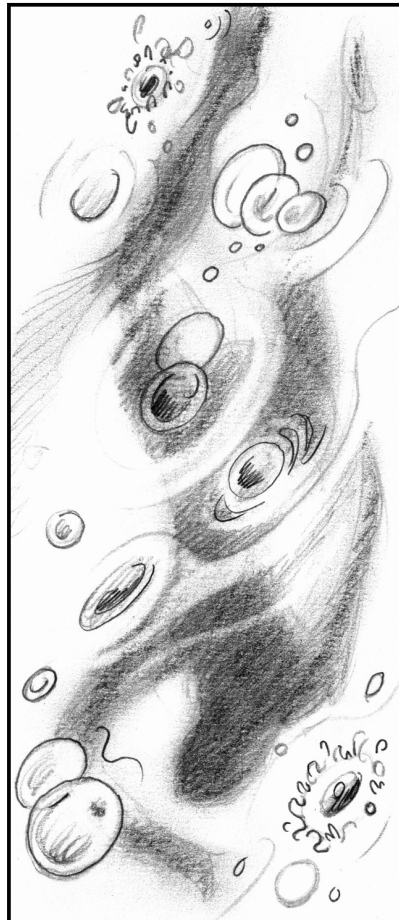
TOSS

SPLASH

GLUB

GLUB

GLUB





REBORN!
RISING LIKE VENUS
FROM THE SEA AT
PAPHOS!



ANWEI YOU'RE...
WHOLE AND SOLID.

AND I FEEL
FRESH AS A BABY
FROM THE BATH.
MAY I HAVE MY
ROBE PLEASE,
PROFESSOR?

MOST
CERTAINLY!



SO IT'S ALL REAL? I MEAN, ALL THAT
REALLY HAPPENED TO YOU?

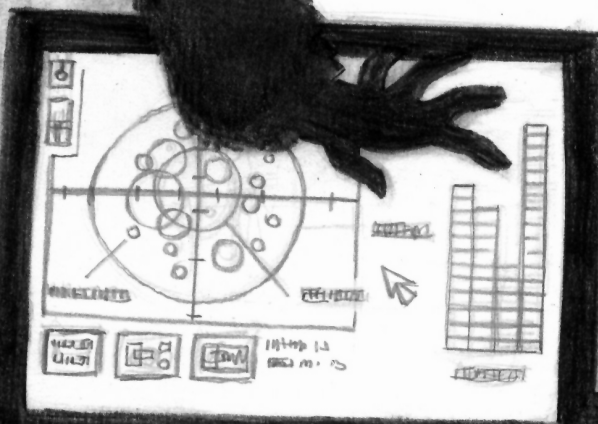
THE PART
WHERE YOU
MELT FEELS
JUST AS
GOOD...AS IT
MUST LOOK
AND SOUND.

AND IN THE END, IT'S AS IF
YOU BECOME A BLISSFUL
OCEANIC FEELING. NOT *HAVE*
ONE, *BECOME* ONE...

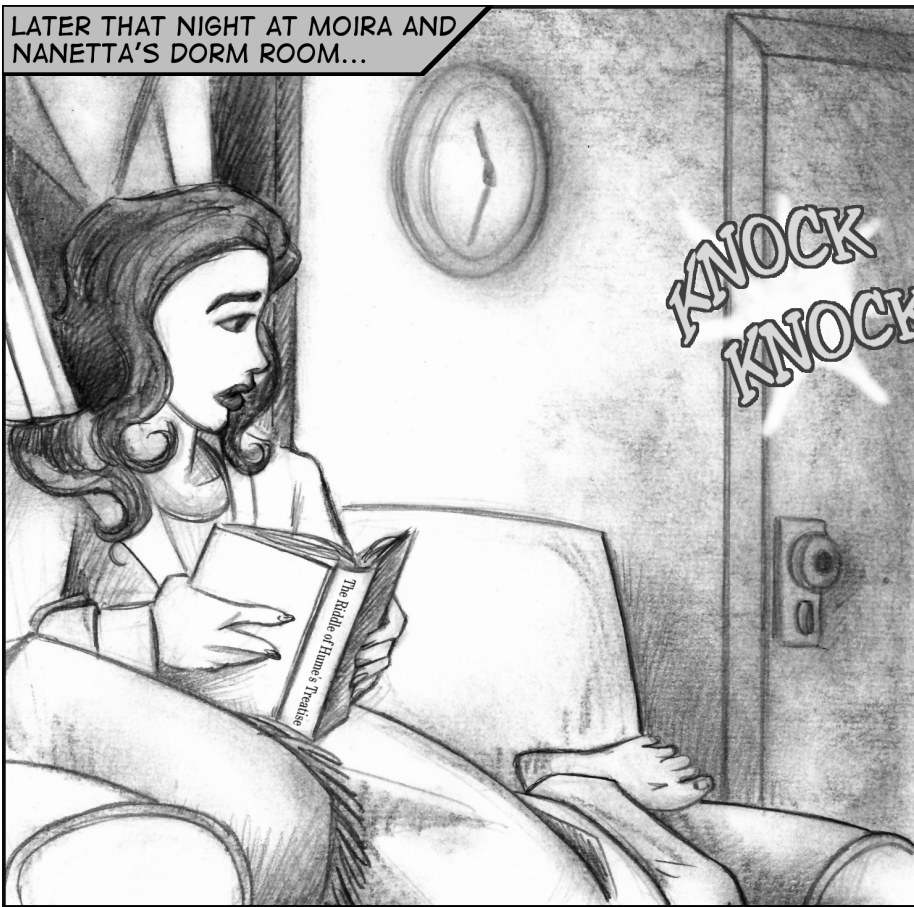
NANETTA?!

MAKE ME A
LIQUID GIRL!

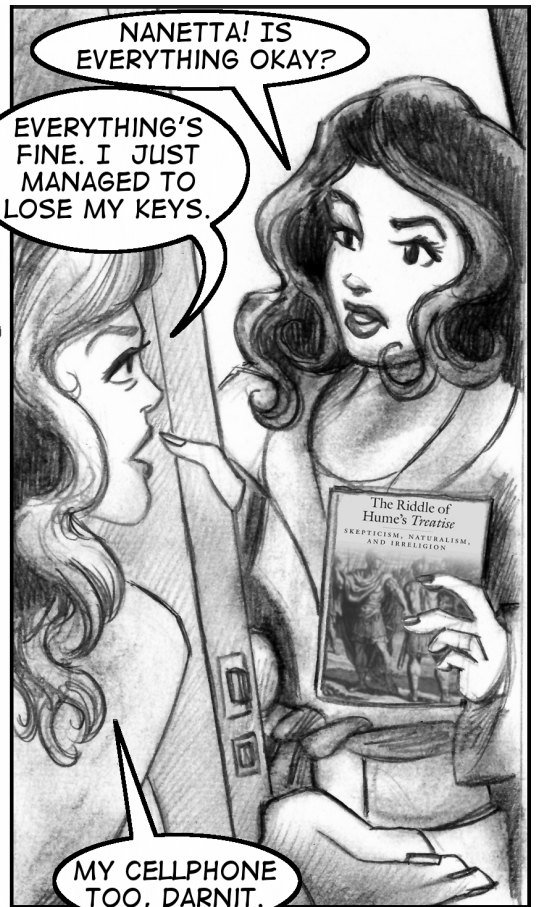
WELL, NOW...



LATER THAT NIGHT AT MOIRA AND NANETTA'S DORM ROOM...



KNOCK
KNOCK!



NANETTA! IS
EVERYTHING OKAY?

EVERYTHING'S
FINE. I JUST
MANAGED TO
LOSE MY KEYS.

MY CELLPHONE
TOO, DARNIT.



HOW DID YOUR
MEETING WITH
PROFESSOR CORWIN
GO? DID YOU GET
YOUR QUESTIONS
ANSWERED?

OH, JUST
SWIMMINGLY.
I'M PRETTY
SLEEPY NOW,
THOUGH.

WELL, THAT'S
GOOD, I GUESS.



AND WHAT HAPPENED TO
YOUR CUTE LITTLE PIGTAILS?

AND WHEN
EXACTLY DID YOU
START SLEEPING
IN THE NUDE?

OH, IT WAS JUST
TIME TO LOSE THOSE.
'NITE MOIRA.

'NITE, NANETTA



Nanetta Rector

NANETTA RECTOR MIGHT LOOK LIKE SHE'S MOSTLY ABOUT FILLING OUT A SWEATER, BUT WHAT SHE REALLY ASPIRES TO FILL OUT IS THE LIBRARY. IN THREE YEARS AT GNOSIS COLLEGE SHE'S BEEN GRINDING AWAY TRYING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT DANIEL DENNETT HAS CALLED THE LAST SURVIVING MYSTERY, THAT OF HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS, READING WHATEVER SHE COULD FIND -- DENNETT, CHALMERS, MCGINN, YOU NAME IT -- ON THE TOPIC. NANETTA'S ABOUT TO FIND OUT THAT WHILE BOOK LEARNING IS ALL WELL AND GOOD, PROFESSOR JOSEPH CORWIN'S MAD SCIENCE IS ABOUT TO PROVIDE HER WITH SOME PERSONAL EXPERIENCE FAR MORE REVEALING OF THE GREAT MYSTERY...